

we continue this situation of consideration, reconsideration, et cetera. I want to emphasize several facts that I think are important here today. The bill was heard in the Committee on Public Works. The bill did not have the number of votes necessary to be advanced to the floor. I believe the bill could have been killed by the Committee on Public Works. I told Senator Hoagland I would not lead the effort to kill the bill, so that he could, in fact, bring it to the floor with 25 votes. I think that is a degree of fairness that has not been shown by a lot of members of this body to others on this floor in instances far less emotional than this one. I want to stress it is not my fault that my two good friends, Senator Vard Johnson and Senator John DeCamp, were not on the floor. That is the luck of the Irish or the way the ball bounces. I would just like to point out that we can stand here today and talk about the various aspects of the bill, if you want to. We are not here to debate the bill. We are here today to discuss whether or not we should reconsider. We should not reconsider because, number one, the bill had its chance in the committee. It failed. Number two, the committee did not use their power to kill the bill, which would have required 30 votes then to bring it to the floor. There have been some times I wish I would have had that kind of consideration myself. Number three, we didn't try to murder the bill or mutilate it and send it to the floor in a fashion which Senator Hoagland would not like. Number four, Senator Landis and Senator Jacklyn Smith have a bill which is favored by the industry, which has had an educational bill, which the committee has reported to the floor, which we believe will do a lot toward solving the problem. That bill is on the floor. It is very likely that continued debate and continued rehashing of old straw is going to deny that bill its opportunity to be heard on the floor. But most of all I want to emphasize again the bill had its shot. It did not succeed. It failed and it should be allowed to remain where it is at. I think that if we continue to rehash, and rehash, and rehash there will be a number of bills that will never be heard, and on the last final days it will be much like the Nebraska football team in the last few minutes, wondering why they can't get the last 2 yards. You waste all that time in the early part of the game and the next thing you know you find yourself down there, a few yards from the goal line and wondering why you can't get the ball across.